

Appl. No. 09/805,891
Amdt dated July 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 9, 2003

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 27 and 37-43 are presently active in this case; Claim 27 having been amended; Claims 28-36 canceled and Claims 37-43 added by way of the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 27-28, 31 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 27-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Miwa et al.; and Claims 27-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kikuchi et al.

With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Applicants have amended and rewritten the claims to include the language “an information medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom.” Therefore, each of the pending claims recites structural hardware (i.e., the information medium) and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is believed to be overcome. If, however, the examiner disagrees, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the examiner in an effort to derive mutually satisfactory claim language.

Turning now to the prior art rejection, in order to expedite issuance of a patent in this case, Applicants have now amended Claim 27 and added Claims 37-43 to clarify patentable features of the claimed invention over the cited references. Specifically, Claim 27, as amended, recites an information medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom, the data including management information and bitstream information.

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The information medium includes a stream object, formed from the bitstream information, including at least one first data unit, at least one second data unit having the at least one first data unit, and at least one third data unit having the at least one second data unit, the at least one third data unit including header information which contains time information relating to the at least one first data unit. Claims 28 and 29 are respectively directed to a method of recording bitstream information and a method of reproducing bitstream information, and each claim includes the information medium of Claim 29.

In addition, Claim 39 is directed to an information medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom, the data including management information and bitstream information. The information medium includes a stream object, formed from the bitstream information, including at least one first data unit, at least one second data unit having the at least one first data unit, and at least one third data unit having the at least one second data unit, wherein said management information includes information relating to a number of the at least one first data unit. Claims 40 and 41 are respectively directed to a method of recording bitstream information and a method of reproducing bitstream information, and each claim includes the information medium of Claim 39.

According to Miwa et al., VOB includes a sequence of Video and Audio packs. Each of the video packs includes pack header and packet header. The pack header of the audio pack includes SCR (system clock reference), and the packet header includes PTS (presentation time stamp). Further, the audio packet includes a "number of frame header." However, the SCR or PTS of Miwa et al. does not include "time information relating to the

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first data unit” as now recited in Claims 27, 37 and 38. Moreover, the “number of frame header” of Miwa et al. does not include the “information relating to a number of the first data unit” as recited in Claims 39-41. Therefore, Claims 27 and 37-41 patentably define over the cited reference to Miwa et al.

According to Kikuchi et al., one pack includes SCR, stuffing, and packet for padding. Further, the audio packet in one pack includes a “number of frame headers.” However, the SCR of Kikuchi et al. does not include “time information relating to the first data unit” as now recited in Claims 27, 37 and 38. Moreover, the “number of frame header” of Kikuchi et al. does not include “information relating to a number of the first data unit” as recited in Claims 39-41. Therefore, Claims 27 and 37-41 patentably define over the cited reference to Kikuchi et al.

For the reasons stated above, Claims 27 and 37-41 patentably define over the cited references. As Claims 42 and 43 depend from Claims 27 and 39, respectively, these claims also patentably define over the cited references.

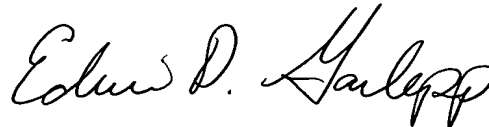
Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in

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condition for formal Allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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